



PARRA NOTES

Friday, June 17

While in the district this weekend, I had the opportunity to meet with several of you. On Friday, I met with **Mike Anderson**, Assistant Director for **Community Services & Employment Training Inc.** in **Visalia**. Taking the time to meet with me at my **Hanford District Office** were **Kings County** Supervisor **Tony Oliveria**, **Chris Kapheim** General Manager for the **Alta Irrigation District** and **Chad Tuttle** and **Jake Belin** from **Kern Oil**. Later in the day I met with members of my **Public Safety Advisory Group** in what turned out to be a very productive and informative meeting. I and several local law officials from throughout the district listened as **Mike Dayton**, Deputy Director at the **Office of Homeland Security (OHS)** gave us an update on Homeland Security issues. Most importantly, OHS got to hear from us. Many of our local law officials made it very clear ...our rural areas need more funding in order to keep our communities safe.

Saturday was quite a hectic day. I started the day in **Hanford** where I met with members of my **Northern Assembly District Women's Advisory Group**. I then drove down to **Bakersfield** to do the same with members of my **Southern Women's Advisory Group**. This was the first meeting held with both groups. Later that day I attended a Town Hall Meeting for **Clinica Sierra Vista**. "Clinica", as it is often referred to, is a health care clinic in **Bakersfield** which serves mostly working families in **Kern County**. In the afternoon, I drove over to **Delano High School** where I attended the **Gateway to Hope Summer Blast**. My day finally ended in **Fresno**, where I got to ride along with **Captain Chuck Leach**, **Captain Adrian Blankenship** and other members of the **Fresno Fire Department Station No. 3**.

Legislative Update

SPECIAL ELECTION

As many of you have heard by now, on Monday the Governor officially called for a special election to be held on November 8th. I must say that I am disappointed by the Governor's decision to move forward with this. There is no legitimate reason as to why this election cannot wait until our already scheduled primary election on June 2006. Not one of the measures he is supporting will save the state a dime or improve our under-funded public schools, address our ever growing healthcare crisis or invest in our crumbling transportation system. This special election only burdens our taxpayers by forcing upon them the \$44.7 million cost of the election.

THE BUDGET

Wednesday was the constitutional deadline for the Legislature to pass their version of the budget. Unfortunately it was not approved, as it rarely is by deadline. Though this budget is not perfect, it fully funds Proposition 42 (transportation funding), relies on no new borrowing and provides \$800 million more in discretionary funds for education than the Governor's May Revise. I will continue to work with the leadership of both parties and the Governor to pass a budget that is fair and balanced for all Central Valley families. I will keep you posted as things progress with the budget.

Other Highlights

AGRICULTURE ADVISORY MEETING

On Wednesday, I had a conference call with members of my Agriculture Advisory Group. Joining us was Senator Sheila Kuehl who answered many questions and gave her perspective on **SB 820**, a comprehensive bill on water issues. SB 820 will make far-reaching changes to the laws affecting water planning and water rights.

CORCORAN SMALL BUSINESS OWNER TROY VANVELSON

On Wednesday, I had the opportunity of honoring **Corcoran** small business owner **Troy VanVelson** in “**A Salute to Small Business**” reception in Sacramento.

Mr. VanVelson has been the dedicated owner of **Pizza Factory** in **Corcoran** for over seven years, but he is most commonly known for his contributions to the community. He is a member of countless community organizations including the **Chamber of Commerce**, **Corcoran Babe Ruth** and the **Corcoran Rotary**, where he served as President in 2004.

Mr. VanVelson is also known by Corcoran residents for his outstanding generosity. He has sponsored various youth athletic teams, the reading program at **Bret Harte Elementary School**, perfect attendance programs at **Mark Twain Elementary** and **John Muir Middle School**.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TOWN HALL

Tomorrow Saturday **June 18th**, I will be hosting a Domestic Violence Town Hall Meeting from **1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** at the **Kern County Fire Fighters Hall** located at **3615 Mt. Vernon Avenue** in **Bakersfield**. This event is open to the public. For more information please contact Juan Cerda at my Bakersfield District office at **(661) 334-3745** or by e-mail at Juan.Cerda@asm.ca.gov.

HEALTH ADVISORY GROUP

The **Office of Statewide Planning and Development (OSHDP)** has offered to participate in a conference call to be held on **Tuesday, June 28** from **10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** with members of my Health Advisory Group and anyone else interested. They will inform us on the various services their agency offers. If you are interested in participating please contact **Frank Stiger** at **(559) 585-7170** or by e-mail at Frank.Stiger@asm.ca.gov

FOSTER CARE CONFERENCE

On **July 9th**, I will be hosting a Foster Care Conference at **California State University Bakersfield's Student Union Building** from **9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** Registration begins at **8:00 a.m.** Joining me will be several organizations who will inform foster care youth and parents of available resources and rights. This event is open to the public. For more information please contact Juan Cerda at my Bakersfield District office at **(661) 334-3745** or by e-mail at Juan.Cerda@asm.ca.gov.

SUMMER INTERNS WANTED

I am presently accepting applications for my summer internship program in my Hanford and Bakersfield district offices. Candidates should be residents of the 30th Assembly District, possess solid research and communication skills, have a strong interest in public policy and political issues facing the Central Valley.

Applications can be found at <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30>. For more details, please contact Jeff Forbes at the Hanford office at **(559) 585-7170** or by e-mail at jeff.forbes@asm.ca.gov . For Bakersfield office internships please contact **Manuel Barrera** at **(661) 334-3745** or by e-mail at Manuel.Barrera@asm.ca.gov

GRANTS

Beginning late June my office will be distributing grant packages. Included in the package will be information regarding, state, federal and private grants. For more information please contact Jeff Forbes at **(559) 585-7170** or by e-mail at jeff.forbes@asm.ca.gov .

How to Contact Me

Sacramento: State Capitol, Room 4005
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 319-2030

Bakersfield: 601 24th Street, Suite A
Bakersfield, CA 93301
(661) 334-3745

Hanford: 321 N. Douty Street, Suite B
Hanford, CA 93230
(559) 585-7170

E-mail: Assemblymember.Parra@assembly.ca.gov

Website: democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30/